



# Epi Update for Friday, February 18, 2022

**Office of the Public Health Medical Director  
Center for Acute Disease Epidemiology (CADE)  
Bureau of HIV, STD, and Hepatitis**

**Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH)**

**Items for this week's Epi Update include:**

- **Infant formula recall**
- **Hepatitis C ECHO: No cost CME Credit and consult with experts**
- **In the news: Malawi detects polio, first wild case in Africa in over 5 years**

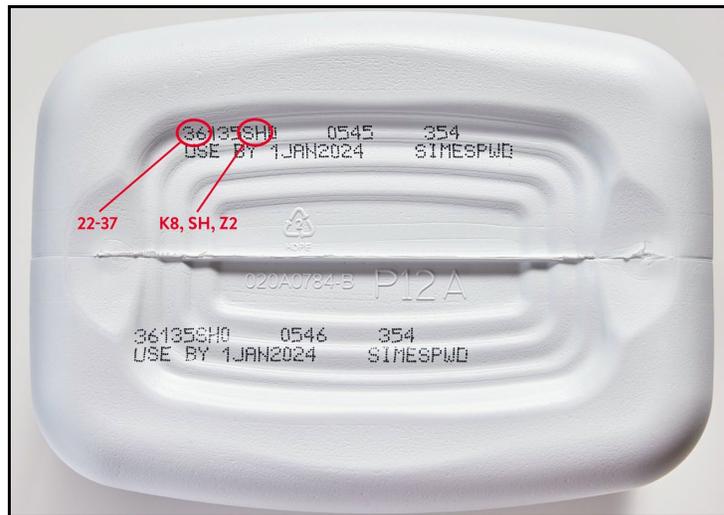
## **Infant formula recall**

Abbott is initiating a proactive, voluntary recall of powder formulas (including Similac, Alimentum, and EleCare) after four consumer complaints related to *Cronobacter sakazakii* or *Salmonella* Newport in infants who had consumed the formula.

*Cronobacter sakazakii* is commonly found in the environment and a variety of areas in the home. In babies, especially babies less than 2 months old, *Cronobacter* germs usually get in the blood or make the lining of the brain and spine swell (meningitis). Sickness from *Cronobacter* in babies will usually start with a fever and poor feeding, crying, or very low energy. Some babies may also have seizures. Babies with these symptoms should be taken to a doctor. If lowans possess any of the affected products, it should not be fed to infants. Affected products are in circulation in Iowa retail locations and have been distributed through the Iowa Department of Public Health's WIC program.

While Abbott's testing of finished product detected no pathogens, they are taking action by recalling the powder formula manufactured with an expiration of April 1, 2022, or later. To find out if the product you have is included in this recall, visit [similacrecall.com](http://similacrecall.com) and type in the code on the bottom of the package, or call 800-986-8540 and follow the instructions provided.

See below for an example of how to find product numbers:



### **Hepatitis C ECHO: No cost CME Credit and consult with experts**

The Iowa Primary Care Association hosts monthly Project ECHO sessions to connect Iowa's community-focused primary care clinicians with experts in the fields of hepatitis C (HCV). ECHO sessions utilize videoconferencing technology (Zoom) to combine didactic presentations with interactive and practical case presentations from participants.

The goal of this ECHO is to amplify local capacity to treat hepatitis C and to help patients achieve a viral cure without leaving the providers they trust and the communities where they live and work. Importantly, the HCV ECHO meets the Iowa Medicaid prescribing requirements for PCPs to treat HCV patients.

To learn more about ECHO and to register to attend visit [iowapca.org/our-work/echos](http://iowapca.org/our-work/echos) or email [ECHO@iowapca.org](mailto:ECHO@iowapca.org).

### **In the news: Malawi detects polio, first wild case in Africa in over 5 years**

[www.cnn.com/2022/02/18/africa/malawi-wild-polio-outbreak-intl/index.html](http://www.cnn.com/2022/02/18/africa/malawi-wild-polio-outbreak-intl/index.html)

**Have a healthy and happy week!**

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